

Top Secret



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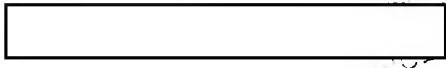


DIRECTORATE OF
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

State Dept. review completed

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South Korea: Troops prepared to suppress student demonstrations over voting irregularities. (Page 7)

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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

Political Developments in South Vietnam: [Minister of Revolutionary Development, General Nguyen Duc Thang, remains discouraged over what he believes is a lack of firmness by the government in carrying out Revolutionary Development programs.]

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[] Thang has submitted his resignation from both the cabinet and the army effective after the elections on 3 September. He is reportedly disgruntled by the ministry's lack of control over cadre at the village and hamlet level and over what he feels will be further efforts to dilute his authority when elected legislators and provincial officials take office. It is not known whether his resignation will be accepted.]

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: No significant ground action has been reported in the past 24 hours.

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South Korea: The government has alerted troops for possible use in quelling student demonstrations over irregularities in last week's parliamentary elections.

The Capital Security Command is ready to act if the police are unable to maintain public order, and an additional battalion has been moved into Seoul. In an effort to avoid provoking further disorders, the troops have made no show of force.

The main opposition party is trying to discredit the election results, which increased the government's majority. It has decided to boycott the National Assembly and has announced it will form a nationwide "struggle committee" to press for nullification of the results.

The government still appears hopeful that action against the more blatant election offenders will pacify the public and enable it to ride out the storm. [Two assemblymen-elect of the ruling Democratic Republican Party (DRP) have reportedly been arrested and, along with six others, expelled from the party. Many party workers have been arrested.]

The election rigging issue has stimulated latent factionalism in the DRP. A militant group of party leaders that wants a greater voice in government policy making is seeking scapegoats for the present trouble. A party council is reported to have recommended that President Pak dismiss the prime minister and the minister of home affairs.

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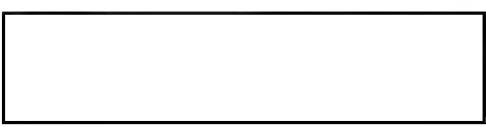
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